## BEFORE THE GUAM CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION



IN THE MATTER OF:

LIZA GARCIA, et al.,

Employee,

VS.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION,

Management.

GRIEVANCE APPEAL CASE NO. 13-GRE-08

**DECISION AND JUDGMENT** 

## I. INTRODUCTION

This Grievance came before the Civil Service Commission ("Commission") for hearing on an appeal of grievance committee findings on Tuesday October 29, 2013. Attorney Daniel Somerfleck appeared on behalf of Liza Garcia, John G. San Nicolas, John Meno, Frances Arriola, Sauna Santos, Alfred T. Garrido, Vicente G. Chargualaf, Nadine Calvo, Geraldine Tajalle, all of whom are school attendance officers with the Department of Education (hereinafter, "Employees"). Robert E. Koss, Lay Representative of the Department of Education ("DOE Management") and Robert Malay, Deputy Superintendent of Assessment and Accountability appeared on behalf of DOE Management.

## II. JURISDICTION

The Commission has jurisdiction over appeals of grievance determinations pursuant to 4 G.C.A. §4403(c) and the Department of Education's Personnel Rules and Regulations at 909.800.

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## III. FACTUAL BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

On or about April 5, 2013, the Employees filed individual grievances appealing their respective position classifications and seeking a position reallocation or reclassification to a higher pay grade retroactive to October 2005 and sought to recover payment of associated back pay. Although the Employees proceeded through each of the previous steps of the grievance procedure contained in the DOE's Personnel Rules and Regulations individually, on June 21, 2013 Employees appealed the determinations made by the Step III Grievance Committee collectively and under a single case number. Thus, for purposes of hearing the Employees' grievances, the Commission held a single hearing.<sup>1</sup>

Pursuant to the Commission's Rules of Procedure for Grievance Appeals, the Commission reviews the findings issued by the Step III Grievance Committee for purposes of determining whether to accept or reject the same, either in whole or in part. CSC G#19. After reviewing the June 13, 2013 Step III Grievance Committee's recommendation, the Commission adopts and ratifies the same.

While the Commission ratifies the recommendations, it also strongly encourages DOE Management to work cooperatively with this group of employees to address their concerns.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> It is also noted that the Step III Grievance Committee's June 13, 2013 recommendation was also issued in relation to all of the Employees' grievances.

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